

NYU he had wonderful plans and a promising future. Stricken with schizophrenia in 1995, his life literally fell apart. A bout of hospitalizations, medications and depression left him and his family confused and anguished.

On May 3, 1995 Rob left his home to get lunch downtown. He has never been seen or heard from since. We live in a suspended state, fearing the worst, dealing with false leads and dashed hopes, facing each day asking "where is our son?"

When we reported to the Millbrae Police Department that Rob was missing, they were wonderful. Without hesitation they entered him into the NCIC (National Crime Information Center) system. Chief Parker has seen that the investigation goes on with special thanks to Officers Michael Grogan and Robb Lowe, "3 Children" of San Bruno, CA and Child Quest Int'l of San Jose were two agencies that reached out to help with a missing adult. There is no doubt that because of Rob's disappearance our level of awareness of the horrifying number of children and adults who are missing each year has changed dramatically. A child is reported missing every 40 seconds in this country. We don't even have statistics on missing adults.

Rob was 26 and an at-risk adult because of being afflicted with schizophrenia. He is so bright and talented but this disease has robbed him of his ability to deal rationally with the world. He feels himself to be responsible for every "evil" thing that happens on earth. Can you imagine having to face each day knowing you caused the Oklahoma bombing, the earthquake in Osaka, the war in Bosnia.

In his delusional state, Rob thinks his family is dead. We are very much alive and want to find our son. We found support and assistance immediately from other families of missing loved ones, and endless support from caring friends. Wanting to reach out to others I became involved as a founding member of a group called F.O.C.U.S. (Finding Our Children Under Stress). One of the first activities of our group came about when a horrifying bit of information surfaced related to one's search for a loved one. In this country we have a central repository of information available to law enforcement for listing missing and unidentified persons, the NCIC. Law enforcement must immediately list a missing child under the age of 18 into this system. Our population can easily move from state to state so this is so logical. However, states are not required to list adults nor are they required to report unidentified persons (alive or deceased) found in their jurisdiction, into this system. If our son died without any identification on him, has he been buried in a Potter's Field somewhere in this country, his identity forever lost? Mourning may never end, investigations may continue to go on, families grieve over cases that could be solved. As a result, under the encouragement of Congressman Lanto's office we have proposed federal legislation to rectify this, Jennifer's Law, HR 2850. In content simply—require states to report unidentified persons found in their jurisdiction into the NCIC in a prompt manner. Jennifer's Law would not only ease the suffering of families wanting to hear about missing loved ones, but could help solve other crimes as well. HR 2850 will ensure that no child or adult is buried as Jane or John Doe. It will assure that they keep their identities even into their deaths.

## MANDATES INFORMATION ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 19, 1998*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3534) to improve congressional deliberation on proposed Federal private sector mandates, and for other purposes.

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose H.R. 3534, the Mandates Information Act of 1998. This misguided legislation would create a road block for many environmental, worker health and safety, and consumer-protection legislation the House may consider in the future.

H.R. 3534 allows a point of order against any bill or amendment if its direct costs to the private sector—either by way of regulatory costs or taxes—exceed \$100 million.

The current unfunded mandates law—which I support and voted for in 1995—establishes a point of order against any bill that imposes net costs of more than \$50 million to state or local governments. This law is designed to prevent Washington from passing on the cost of new laws and regulations to the states and local governments.

The Mandates Information Act, however, is more broad and would restrict more legislation. Under this bill, for example, any legislation that increases taxes on gasoline, airports or tobacco—which would be used for highway funding, airport construction, or reducing teen smoking—would be subject to a point of order. This bill would jeopardize the hard-fought BESTEA highway program, which includes \$356 million more for my home state, and could stop the tobacco bill, which is being crafted with the intention of curbing teen smoking, from being considered when it reaches the floor.

Another problem with this legislation is that the implementation of the point of order provision is uneven and arbitrary. For example, if Congress decides to increase the tax on tobacco products in order to create new programs and incentives to stop children from smoking, the bill would be subject to a point of order. But, if Congress passes a tobacco tax, and decides to use the increased revenues to pay for a tax break for special interests, there would be no point of order. In both of these examples a mandate was imposed on the private sector, but in only one case is the point of order imposed.

I also find this bill unnecessary. The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act already requires the Congressional Budget Office to report the private sector costs of legislation to Congress. Additionally, an executive order exists which requires federal agencies to consider private sector costs when drafting and implementing regulations. Congress and the Administration is already addressing the need to consider mandates on the private sector.

Mr. Speaker, I support the objective of this legislation, which is to assure that Congress fully considers the mandates imposed on the private sector, but I disagree with the method this bill takes to achieve that goal. That bill creates an unnecessary obstacle for consider-

ing legislation and is implemented in an arbitrary way. I hope we can continue to work to assure that the cost of legislation on the private sector is considered, but urge my colleagues to reject this misguided bill.

TRIBUTE TO VICE ADMIRAL  
GEORGE R. STERNER

**HON. NORMAN SISISKY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 22, 1998*

Mr. SISISKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Vice Admiral George R. Sterner, United States Navy, as he retires upon completing 36 years of faithful service to our Nation.

During his distinguished career, Vice Admiral Sterner played a significant role in reshaping the way America develops, acquires, modernizes and maintains its ships, ordnance and systems so that our Sailors and Marines at the tip of the spear have the best in the world at an affordable price.

Vice Admiral Sterner's career began in 1962 upon his commissioning as an Ensign in the United States Navy. During the years that followed, he served aboard four submarines, U.S.S. *Tullibee* (SSN 597), U.S.S. *Kamehameha* (SSBN 642), U.S.S. *Archerfish* (SSN 678), and U.S.S. *Henry L. Stimson* (SSBN 655), and commanded two others, the attack submarine U.S.S. *Sturgeon* (SSN 637) and the ballistic missile submarine U.S.S. *Florida* (SSBN 728).

Among his shore assignments was duty on the staff of the Commander in Chief, United States Atlantic Fleet; as branch head for submarine tactical weapons on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations; Program Manager for Mark 48 Advance Capability Torpedo; and Program Executive Officer for Submarine Combat and Weapons Systems. He also served at Naval Sea Systems Command, first as Assistant Deputy Commander for Combat Systems Engineering and Technology and then as Vice Commander.

On April 25, 1994, Vice Admiral Sterner took charge of Naval Sea Systems Command, the largest of five Navy Systems Commands.

As Commander of Naval Sea Systems Command, his remarkable leadership re-focused and re-energized the organization, which, due to downsizing and restructuring, was experiencing a transformation of a magnitude and impact that had not been experienced since World War II. Carefully executing a budget of about \$14 billion annually and managing more than 180 acquisition programs, he has been an outstanding steward of taxpayer dollars, yet has also ensured we have the technically-superb, world-class ships, ordnance and systems needed to protect our national interests.

As testament to his dynamic leadership, the National Performance Review chose to honor him and his command with 27 Hammer Awards for contributions to create a government that works better and costs less.

Closer to home, Vice Admiral Sterner has been a good friend to the men and women of Virginia who make their livelihood at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard. Thanks in part to his insightful planning, the Shipyard will retain its important military-industrial capabilities and continue to provide jobs for decades to come.

Vice Admiral George Sterner's innovation and vision positioned Naval Sea Systems Command for the 21st century and beyond. He is an individual of uncommon character, and his superb leadership and service will be sincerely missed. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be able to recognize him today and thank him for his honorable service in the United States Navy, and wish him "fair winds and following seas" as he brings to a close his distinguished career.

IN HONOR OF THE PENNSYLVANIA  
FREE ENTERPRISE WEEK

**HON. JOHN E. PETERSON**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 22, 1998*

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the citizens of Pennsylvania to pay special tribute to the Foundation for Free Enterprise Education which this year is celebrating the 20th Anniversary of Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week.

Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week is a seven-day economic education program providing Pennsylvania high school students and teachers at all levels, a practical, in-depth course on the American system of private enterprise and the operations of a free market. Over 1,100 students and teachers will join together with more than 200 Pennsylvania businessmen and businesswomen in order to experience and explore the challenge of healthy competition through a business management simulation, to hear top leaders in Pennsylvania business and government speak on the issues facing American business and industry, and, to participate in a series of specially formulated projects designed to acquaint them with the inner workings of a modern-day business.

Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week is celebrating its more than 12,000 graduates representing more than 900 high schools in every county of this Commonwealth who have returned to their schools and communities with a vastly improved understanding of the world of business.

Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week is now recognized as the largest, most successful economic education program of its kind in the world. Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week has now attained both national and international acclamation by its receipt of the 1987 National Award for Excellence in Economic Education from the Freedom's Foundation in Valley Forge, by being instrumental in starting similar programs in twenty-seven other states as well as in the country of New Zealand, by hosting students from the countries of Puerto Rico, Mexico and Russia and by serving as hosts in 1994 to a contingent of business people from Australia, seeking to pattern a program after Pennsylvania's.

I applaud Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week which continues to fulfill its mission of providing the highest quality economic education to the youth and educators of Pennsylvania, thereby insuring a brighter future for the Commonwealth.

TRIBUTE TO THE HON. S. SUE  
SHEAR

**HON. KAREN MCCARTHY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 22, 1998*

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Honorable S. Sue Shear, a Representative from the 83rd Legislative District. She is currently serving her 13th term in the Missouri House of Representatives. Her district takes in all or part of six communities: Clayton, Ladue, Olivette, Creve Coeur, Overland and University City.

Representative Shear has spent the last 26 years fighting for the rights of women, bettering conditions for Missouri's children, older adults, the disabled, health care in general and working to improve the conditions in Missouri's prisons. She sponsored numerous measures reflecting her commitment to the environment, working people, and consumers. She was the original author of the award winning "Parents as Teachers" program, first established in Missouri and now a national model. One of the battles not won was for the Equal Rights Amendment of which she was the original sponsor and for which she became the symbol for women across the state. Susie has also become an icon; treated with respect and affection by fellow legislators, especially women colleagues who have dubbed her "the mother of us all." The Missouri house honored her at the close of its current session with a renewed commitment to women's equality in her honor.

Susie was born March 17, 1918. Now the senior woman in the House of Representatives, Susie recently celebrated her 80th birthday. She married the late Harry D. Shear and they had three children: M. Katherine, a psychiatrist; Kenneth R., a lawyer; and Kerry R., an art historian. Ken wrote a letter to her on her 75th birthday in which he said: "Going to Jeff City with you last month brought home to me just what an accomplishment you have made, without a college degree, without a law degree, to have forged yourself a role as one of the leaders of state government. The way I see it, you created a situation in which you had the role of being a leading spokeswoman for feminist and liberal causes, before you quite knew how to fill the role. And then you grew into it. A neat trick."

Perhaps Susie's greatest legacy is her clear commitment to stand firm in her beliefs. For this and many of her attributes, Women in Public Life at the University of Missouri-St. Louis will aptly bear her name. She has inspired, nurtured, and taught many women the skills they need to make their way in the world.

I am very fortunate to have served with her for 18 years in the Missouri General Assembly. I unabashedly called her "Mom." She was the mother I needed as I made my way as a young woman through the trials and tribulations of public service. In her Darwinian function, she gave birth to me in the political arena, set standards she expected me to meet, and shoved me out of the nest to become a member of Congress.

Susie is retiring this year after serving 26 years in the Missouri House. Her children and grandchildren are to be commended for their generosity in sharing her with the broader com-

munity, our state and nation. The world is a better place for her life of public service. Thank you, Mom, for teaching me the joy of giving back to society.

TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION  
MONTH

**HON. DONNA M. CHRISTIAN-GREEN**

OF VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 22, 1998*

Ms. CHRISTIAN-GREEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues to take advantage of the fact that this is Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month to speak about this important and far reaching problem in my community and many others across this nation, and to thank my colleagues Ms. CLAYTON and Mrs. MORELLA for their leadership in calling this evening's special order.

According to statistical data provided by the Virgin Islands Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics and other sources, the incidence of sexual activity among the adolescent and young adult populations in the Territory is very high. Within a five year period from 1992-1996 there were 11,810 live births recorded in the Virgin Islands. Of those births, 25.7% were born to white non-Hispanic mothers ages 13-24 years of age; 44.3% to black, non-Hispanic mothers and 50.3% to Hispanic mothers in the same age group.

Additionally, information provided by the national campaign to prevent teen pregnancy showed that birth rates for Virgin Islands teenagers ages 15-19 in 1995, though down from 1991 figures of 77.9%, were still at a very high 63%. But there is another distressing message underlying these statistics which cannot be overlooked; that is that our teens are having unprotected sex.

As these numbers indicate the incidence of teenage pregnancy is declining, albeit slowly, and my community, as well as all other communities need to view this issue not only as a problem of young people having children before they are mature enough to accept and carry out the responsibilities of parenting, but as but a symptom of larger, much deeper issues of the poor and unhealthy socio-economic environment which creates and fosters this and other problems in minority youth.

The best teen pregnancy prevention program would be to pass much of the Democratic agenda. Let's rebuild and construct new schools, hire and train more teachers, and improve our public educational system.

Let's create more opportunities for a college education, jobs, business and home ownership. Let's fully fund our health care proposals.

I have developed and worked in programs and clinics which serve pregnant teens.

Too often we miss the opportunity to prevent second pregnancies, but a comprehensive program, which provides all of the supportive services, and which includes counseling, esteem building, and coordination with the schools the young parents attend is very effective.

We also have to effectively and firmly deal with the older men who prey on our young women and are most often the fathers of the children they bear.

Most of all parents cannot abandon their children once they have made this first mistake. That has proven to be the most important factor in how well we prevent the next